

## REMARKS

In the patent application, claims 3-41 and 43-50 are pending. In the office action, all pending claims are rejected.

Please cancel claims 45 and 46, amend claims 3 – 7, 10, 11, 15 -19, 22 -33, 35 - 41, 43, 44, 47 – 49, and add new claims 51 and 52 as follows:

Applicant has canceled claims 45 and 46, and amended claims 3 – 7, 10, 11, 15 - 19, 22 -33, 35 - 41, 43, 44, 47 – 49, and added new claims 51 and 52.

Independent claims 3, 16, 26, 35 and 49 have been amended to include the limitations that at least one video frame for video editing is determined, and the frame characteristics of a video frame includes a first characteristic and a second characteristic, and if the frame characteristic of that at least one video frame is the first characteristic, the bitstream is modified in the compressed domain based on specified editing parameters, but if the frame characteristic of that at least one video frame is a second characteristic, then one or more preceding frames are decoded along with that at least one video frame, and the last of the decoded frames is encoded before the bitstream is modified.

The support for the amendments can be found in the specification, page 10, lines 22-25; and page 11, lines 24-33.

Claims 4 and 36 have been amended to include the limitation of VLC coded frames. The support for the amendment can be found in the previously presented claim 3.

Claims 5, 24 and 25 have been amended to change the claim dependency.

Claims 6, 7, 10, 11, 15, 17 - 20, 22, 23, 27-33, 37-41, 47, 48 have been amended to change the wording of the claims.

Claim 43 has been amended to be dependent from claim 3.

New claims 51 and 52 are dependent from claim 3 and claim 16, respectively, and have the further limitation that the last decoded video frame is encoded by an encoding module before the bitstream is modified.

The support for the amendments can be found in the specification, page 11, lines 24-33.

No new matter has been introduced.

In the final office action, mailed November 29, 2008, claims 3-11, 15-22, 25-32, 35-41 and 43-50 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Wee et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6,104,441, hereafter referred to as *Wee*), in view of *Naimpally et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 5,477,397, hereafter referred to as *Naimpally*). In rejecting those claims, the Examiner admitted that *Wee* fails to disclose converting the VLC coded video into a binary form prior to said modification, but pointed to *Naimpally* for disclosing converting VLC coded data into a binary form.

As amended, independent claims 3, 16, 26, 35 and 49 include the further limitations that the frame characteristics of a video frame include a first characteristic and a second characteristic, and if the frame characteristic of at least one video frame identified for video editing is the first characteristic, the bitstream is modified in the compressed domain based on specified editing parameters, but if the frame characteristic of that at least one video frame is a second characteristic, then one or more preceding frames are decoded along with that at least one video frame before the bitstream is modified.

Neither *Naimpally* nor *Wee* discloses the above-described further limitations.

For the above reasons, the cited *Naimpally* and *Wee* references, whether used individually or in combination, fail to render claims 3, 16, 26, 35 and 49 obvious.

As for claims 4-11, 15, 17-22, 25, 27-34, 36-41, 43, 44, 47, 48 and 50-52, they are dependent from claims 3, 16, 26, 35 and 49 and recite features not recited in claims 3, 16, 26, 35 and 49. For reasons regarding claims 3, 16, 26, 35 and 49 above, claims 4-11, 15, 17-22, 25, 27-34, 36-41, 43, 44, 47, 48 and 50-52 are also distinguishable over the cited *Naimpally* and *Wee* references.

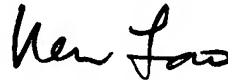
In the office action, claims 12-14 and 23-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Wee*, in view of *Naimpally*, and further in view of *Abe* (U.S. Patent No. 6,618,491). The Examiner cites *Abe* for disclosing combining the audio data with edited video data.

It is respectfully submitted that claims 12-14 and 23-24 are dependent from claim 3 and 16 and recite features not recited in claims 3 and 16. For reasons regarding claims 3 and 16 above, claims 12-14 and 23-24 are also distinguishable over the cited *Naimpally*, *Wee* and *Abe* references.

CONCLUSION

Claims 3-41, 43, 44 and 48-52 are allowable. Early allowance of claims 3-41, 43, 44 and 48-52 is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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